

REMARKS

Amendments to Claims

The applicants have made a number of amendments to the claims. Except for the amendment to claim 3 deleting Seq. ID No.: 11, the amendments are of a non-substantive nature and not narrow the scope of the claims.

None of the amendments constitutes new matter.

Claims 7-11

Claims 7-11 were withdrawn pursuant to a restriction requirement. The applicants respectfully request that these claims be rejoined and new claim 29 entered. The claimed conjugates of claims 7-11 and 29 all comprise two or more of the peptides of amended claims 3-6. As these peptides have been found to be free of the prior art, so too must claims the conjugates of claims 7-11 and 29. Consequently, no additional prior art search and analysis is required for these claims, and there would not be an undue burden to include them in the present application. Accordingly the applicants respectfully request that these claims be rejoined.

35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-6 were rejected as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. The applicants respectfully traverse. Nevertheless, claims 1-2 have been canceled, thereby obviating most of the bases of this rejection.

35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph (Written Description)

Claims 1-6 were also rejected as lacking written description support. The applicants respectfully traverse. Nevertheless, claims 1-2 have been canceled, thereby obviating this rejection. Amended claim 3 is believed to be in accord with the written description requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph (Enablement)


Claims 1-6 were also rejected as lacking written description support. The applicants respectfully traverse. Nevertheless, claims 1-2 have been canceled, thereby obviating this rejection.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that all conditions of patentability are met in the pending claims. Allowance of the claims is thereby respectfully solicited. If the Examiner believes it to be helpful, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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